



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 617-292-5500

MITT ROMNEY
Governor

KERRY HEALEY
Lieutenant Governor

ELLEN ROY HERZFELDER
Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr.
Commissioner

2004 Annual Notice to Local Boards of Health

Dear Sir or Madam:

6/18/2004

The Massachusetts, Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Program (DEP/DWP) annually provides local Boards of Health with an inventory of all public water systems (PWS) in the Commonwealth for review and comment. This year the annual update includes information on the following programs that we hope will continue to foster a working partnership with DEP to protect public health. (Please review Attachment A for a summary on the topics listed below.)

- ✓ Inventory of all registered public water systems in your city or town
- ✓ Urgent issue regarding gas station conversions to restaurants or other food serving establishments
- ✓ Arsenic in private wells fact sheet
- ✓ Eliminating lead contamination in school drinking water
- ✓ Annual recreational camp requirement
- ✓ Water supply safety issues at local fairs
- ✓ Perchlorate
- ✓ Specific PWS information on the DEP/DWP website

The DEP/DWP has improved its capability to share timely information about the water system(s) within your community. Through the use of Adobe Acrobat PDF files and file attachments to e-mails, we would be pleased to keep you informed on decisions affecting your local systems. If you are interested in participating, please send your email address to me at the email address in the next paragraph.

Thank you for continuing to work together with us to protect the public health. If you have any questions on the material provided please call the contact persons listed in Attachment A or if you would like to contact me please email me at Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

David Y. Terry
Program Director
DEP/BRP/Drinking Water Program

Attachments:

Detail sheet
Inventory list for updating
Arsenic Fact Sheet
Lead in Schools Questionnaire
Annual Recreational Camp Notification Form

cc: DWP E-file
PWS with email addresses
DWP webpage

Y:\DWPArchive\BOSTON\Annual BOH letter-statewide- Final B 2004-6-10.doc

This information is available in alternate format. Call Debra Doherty, ADA Coordinator at 617-292-5565. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>

Printed on Recycled Paper

Attachment A

*****INVENTORY OF ALL REGISTERED PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS*****

Please find attached to this letter a list of Public Water Systems (PWS) in your city or town. This information is provided to make you aware of all of the PWS in your city or town that are registered with the DEP/DWP. Please review this information for any discrepancies. Discrepancies may include the following:

Systems that should be added to the list because the facility meets the definition of a PWS: *provides water to 25 or more people, 60 or more days a year.*

Systems that should be deleted from the list because the facility no longer has its own well or source of water.

Changes in address and ownership.

Please update and return the list to DEP/DWP, 1 Winter St., 6th Floor, Boston, MA, 02108. Att: Mark T. Bolivar.

You may also respond by email to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: BOH update

*****URGENT ISSUE REGARDING GAS STATION CONVERSION *****

Recently there has been an increase in the number of conversions of gas stations and storefronts into other uses. Please be advised if a facility that is currently classified as a private water supply proposes any future changes in the use of the establishment that would cause the system to be classified as a public water supply, then the facility must meet all applicable DEP standards, and obtain the proper DEP permits and approvals. Some examples include a change from a small office or gas station to a daycare, coffee shop, restaurant or other facility, that may serve beverages, handle food, require food permits, or supply water to more than 25 persons on average per day.

Proponents creating any new or potential public water system should be directed to contact the DEP/DWP as they would be subject to 310 CMR 22.00 and all applicable DEP standards, permits and approvals.

It should also be noted that if a proponent subsequently creates and/or operates a facility as a public water system prior to obtaining DEP approvals, the facility owner(s) and operator(s) are subject to enforcement action (including monetary penalties).

*****ARSENIC IN PRIVATE WELLS FACT SHEET*****

The attached fact sheet titled "Arsenic in Private Well Water" was developed for private drinking water well owners and provides information on the health effects associated with arsenic and a discussion of some of the household treatment options available. This fact sheet is available electronically on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/files/arswell.htm>.

*****ELIMINATING LEAD CONTAMINATION IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER*****

On March 30, 2004, DEP's Commissioner Gollidge issued a notice to school administrators in the Commonwealth. This notice requested that all schools complete the attached evaluation form and return it to the DEP before the end of the school year. Schools in your community may be seeking your assistance in evaluating their schools. Detailed information on this issue is available electronically on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/lead.htm>.

*****ANNUAL RECREATIONAL CAMP REQUIREMENT*****

As you know the responsibility for licensing local recreational camps falls to individual Boards of Health. Licenses are issued in accordance with Massachusetts State Regulation 105 CMR 430.000, which stipulates that, "upon the issuance of a license, the local board of health shall notify the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Said notification shall include the name and address of the camp, the name of the owner, the number of campers and staff and the number of days per year that the camp will be in operation". **If you have not yet submitted this information to DEP please do so within the next 30 days by using the attached form or by submitting a copy of all recreational camp licenses granted by your Board in 2003 to the address listed on the attached form.**

Information on drinking water requirements and campgrounds is available electronically on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/camps.htm>. You may also contact Yvette DePeiza of my staff at 617-292-5857, or Yvette.dePeiza@state.ma.us. Alternately you may contact the Drinking Water Program regional office staff listed below in the section on local fairs.

*****WATER SUPPLY SAFETY ISSUES AT LOCAL FAIRS*****

DEP/DWP recommends the following procedures to help boards of health provide oversight of private water supply sources used for public drinking water at local, county, and state fairs. Currently, these sources may not be regulated by the DEP as a public water source but are more commonly regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Local Boards of Health.

The recommendations listed below should be considered part of the local permitting process for these events. They are intended to help prevent the type of waterborne disease outbreak experienced at a New York county fair in the fall of 2000. That outbreak resulted in death and numerous illnesses.

- A buffer area of at least 100 feet should be established around wells. No animal shelters, animal feed lots, animal waste disposal, septic systems, portable sanitary facilities, chemical or fuel storage, or vehicle parking should occur within this buffer zone.
- Event operators should work with a certified drinking water operator at least 30 days prior to the opening of each fair to assure that water sources and all water lines are thoroughly flushed and disinfected.
- Total coliform bacteria samples should be collected and the samples must test “absent” of coliform bacteria. Coliform samples should be collected 30 days prior to the event and again at least 1 week prior to any use of the water system. Coliform bacteria samples should continue to be collected and analyzed each seven-day period the fair is in operation or as determined by the Board of Health as a result of a site-specific inspection. Samples for nitrate and nitrite should also be collected 30 days prior to the event and again at least 1 week prior to any use of the water system. If any contaminants are detected, or if site-specific criteria require it, additional sampling may be required.
- A Massachusetts certified laboratory must perform all testing. To locate a certified lab and certified drinking water operator in your area, visit the following Web sites or contact your regional DEP office.
<http://license.reg.state.ma.us/loca/locaProf.asp> (Find a Certified Operator)
www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/dw/cmr.htm (Board of Certified Operators)
www.state.ma.us/dep/bspt/wes/files/certlabs.pdf (List of Massachusetts Certified Labs)

Information on securing private sources of drinking water at local fairs is available electronically on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/camps.htm>. You may also contact Paul Blain at 617/292-5948 or Paul.Blain@state.ma.us. Alternately you may contact the regional offices at:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Western Regional Office | Northeast Regional Office | Central Regional Office | Southeast Regional Office |
| Dan Laprade 413/755-2289 | James Dillon 617/654-6622 | Kelly Momberger 508/849-4023 Paul Anderson 508/767-2802 | Dan DiSalvio 508/946-2783 Dave DeLorenzo, 508/946-2764 |

*****PERCHLORATE*****

On February 27, 2004 DEP issued monitoring regulations for community and non-transient non-community systems for perchlorate. These regulations were implemented to investigate the occurrence of perchlorate in the public drinking waters of the Commonwealth. Boards of Health are encouraged to review perchlorate information electronically on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/percinfo.htm>. If there are any questions on potential sources of perchlorate and their impact on private wells in your community contact the DEP Bureau of Waste Site Clean-up (BWSC) regional contacts as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Western Regional Office | Northeast Regional Office | Central Regional Office | Southeast Regional Office |
| _____413/____-____ | _____617/____-____ | _____508/____-____ | _____508/____-____ |

*****SPECIFIC PWS INFORMATION ON THE DEP/DWP WEBSITE*****

No later than December 1, 2005 the DEP/DWP will have the most recent copies of public water system sampling schedules. These schedules identify the analyte monitoring requirements for a three-year compliance period along with the frequency of water quality sampling. Also planned for public information on our website are transient non-community public water systems annual reports. Local officials are encouraged to electronically check the above-mentioned information prior to conducting surveys and inspections of transient non-community systems. DEP will inform you by email when the first version of these documents are posted on the DEP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/dwshome.htm>

**DEP Drinking Water Program
Recreational Camps licensed by Local Boards of Health in 2004***

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| City/Town: _____ | Date: _____ |
| Board of Health: _____ | Phone # _____ |
| (name of contact person) | |
| Address: _____ | Email _____ |

Please print in black ink and make copies of this form if you have more than three camps in your city/town.

Check applicable statement below

[] All camps in our city/town are served by a single public water system (PWS) registered with the DEP.

PWS Name: _____ PWS Identification (ID)#: _____. (For more than 1 PWS fill out the form below)

[] The camps listed below **are not served** by a single public water system registered with the DEP

Camps with their own source of water supply

Camp# _____
Camp Name: _____
Camp Location/Address: _____
Phone Number at Camp: _____
Camp Owners Name: _____
Camp Owners Address: _____
Contact Person at Camp: _____ Source of water: ☐ Public water system ☐ Private well
Maximum number of Campers: _____ Number of Staff _____
Number of days open: _____ Dates: From _____ to _____
of days of pre-open training or startup time: _____ # of days of post camp closing close-down time: _____
Comments: _____

Camp# _____
Camp Name: _____
Camp Location/Address: _____
Phone Number at Camp: _____
Camp Owners Name: _____
Camp Owners Address: _____
Contact Person at Camp: _____ Source of water: ☐ Public water system ☐ Private well
Maximum number of Campers: _____ Number of Staff: _____
Number of days open: _____ Dates: From _____ to _____
of days of pre-open training or startup time: _____ # of days of post camp closing close-down time: _____
Comments: _____

Camp# _____
Camp Name: _____
Camp Location/Address: _____
Phone Number at Camp: _____
Camp Owners Name: _____
Camp Owners Address: _____
Contact Person at Camp: _____ Source of water: ☐ Public water system ☐ Private well
Maximum number of Campers: _____ Number of Staff: _____
Number of days open: _____ Dates: From _____ to _____
of days of pre-open training or startup time: _____ # of days of post camp closing close-down time: _____
Comments: _____

* "Upon the issuance of a license, the local board of health shall notify the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Said notification shall include the name and address of the camp, the name of the owner, the number of campers and staff, and the number of days per year that the camp will be in operation". 105 CMR 430.000

Return this form by **July 15th 2004** to: Department of Environmental Protection,
Drinking Water Program, 1 Winter Street, Boston, MA., 02108
Attention: WQA/Campgrounds

You may also email your response to Program.Director-DWP@state.ma.us, Subject: WQA/Campgrounds